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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

NON-FEE

In re the Application of: **Ronald G. Haagenstad**Serial No.: **09/659,382**Filed: **09/08/00**For: **TIERED TRENCHING BACKHOE SYSTEM**Attorney Docket: **P4380**Examiner: **Thomas A. Beach.**Group Art Unit: **3671**

Commissioner For Patents
 Mail Stop: Amendment -Non Fee
 PO Box 1450,
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed March 12, 2004, please consider the following remarks and amendments.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIM:

As shown below, allowed claims 1 - 6 remain as previously presented, claims 7 - 11 are cancelled without prejudice, and without any disclaimer of the subject matter therein, new claim 13 has been added, and claim 12 has been amended to depend from new claim 13, all as shown below.

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GROUP 3600